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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I believe that open competition in a capitalist society is the only way for prices to find a just value. This is the very basis of economics, and it feels un-American to reverse the glorious progress of the past to do away with monopolies or unfair market advantages, but to give nigh-on limitless power to a few giant corporations. I like my neighborhood SONIC. I like supporting local business. I like that they promise net neutrality even in the face of corporate greed exhibited by other providers. I HATE that our firefighters here in California had to pay elevated prices to Verizon because that corporate giant had the ability to hold hostage our very lives for a fee as the fire departments tried to coordinate an unprecedented firefight and rescue operation. Please do what you can to keep communications open for all. As a small business owner, I care about my phone and internet service costs and availability - but even more than that I care that the market stay fair and open to all. Because that really is part of what makes America great.

Lauren Meredith